

COHEN

May 7, 1948.

Dear Seymour-

Since yesterday, I've hastily gone over my notes and repeated the galactose-L-arabinose cross-adaptation experiments. According to my notes, cells adapted to either sugar by having been grown in 1% sugar broth (autoclaved) will rapidly produce acid in the presence of azide and either sugar. The azide inhibits completely or at least for many hours such adaptation by glucose-grown cells. There is probably a short lag in the utilization of the heterologous sugar. In the absence of azide (expt. yesterday), one can only report that it takes much less time for cells grown on galactose or arabinose to adapt to the other sugar than it does for glucose-grown cells. It is possible that the fact that the medium in which the cells are grown is autoclaved may also be relevant; there is certainly some sugar decomposition. Then fermentation tests, however, are done on fresh solutions. I hope this will be a satisfactory explanation of the discrepancy and that you may be able to confirm what I say.

Sincerely,